ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION	Web Comments 10.18.21		
Submitted Time	Full Name	Subject	Message
10/18/2021 - 00:11	Julie M Pindzola	CD3.0 and Northern AZ District Fairness	This message reiterates the support for a Competitive District in Northern AZ, particularly NE AZ. The Navajo/Hopi Tribes along with smaller ones must have VRA accommodation for a fair shot at real representation. The CD maps went in the opposite direction with the requests made by Commissioner Mehl on Friday. The IRC Map 3.0 is not truly competitive for District 2 but the map is pretty balanced for the state overall. 3.0 is far less lopsided to the Right than the following iterations 3.1 and 3.2, which would make the state overall hard core Red instead of the current Purple. Please go back to 3.0 and start afresh to make District 2 truly Competitive. Actually either of the Maps submitted as CD0001 or CD0025 could provide a very good beginning in that they put the Verde Valley with Flagstaff and the Tribes for an honest, Competitive District 2. It leaves the larger part of Yavapai County with Mohave and Lap Paz for a happy COI of conservative folks as District 9. There is good reason to honor the COI that was stated early and sincerely by the Verde Valley folks who relate to Flagstaff and points east. They are not of a "campaign" as you saw last Tuesday filling 17 pages of very similar talking points. Deja vu. It is that very hyper organization of partisan precincts that is what the Prop106 tries to counter balance for Fair and Competitive districts. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.
10/18/2021 - 00:51	Nancy Edelstein	Input on proposed redistricting	Whatever ends up being your final proposal/map, I urge you, in the spirit of being an INDEPENDENT commission vs. political party-based gerrymandering, that you NOT have your proposed map give an advantage to any one political party or group. I fear for our democracy if elections are thus "rigged" one way or another. Please somehow find an equitable map that enables democracy to flourish.
10/18/2021 - 00:53	Marianna Gyger	Fair Maps	I'm interested in redistricting.
10/18/2021 - 05:39	M'Lissa Haldt	Fair, accurate redistricting	After moving to Arizona from Indiana six years ago, I told my family and friends back east that the thing I liked most about Arizona politics and values was that, at first glance, it seemed to me that the conservatism here was the good kind, but what I have seen happen here politically has me in grave fear for our democracy. I hope you will follow the courage of the pioneers who came out here generations ago by not allowing gerrymandering of any kind to occur here now. Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns.
10/18/2021 - 06:20	Phyllis Factor	Fair districting	Gerrymandering is a travesty. Make our votes count

10/18/2021 - 06:38	Diane McQueen	Redistricting Maps and Communities of Interest	Sedona, the Verde Valley and the Prescott Quad-City area for over 30 years. I spent many years working for Northern Arizona Healthcare and traveling between Flagstaff Medical Center, Sedona Medical Center and the Verde Valley Medical Center. I also spent many years working for the City of Flagstaff. I was, and still am, very involved in all these communities both on a personal and professional level. The Verde Valley and Sedona are, and need to stay, one community of interest with Flagstaff and their LD and CD districts need to reflect this. The Verde Valley and Sedona, in relation to the Quad-City area, are not just separated by a mountain range. They are also separated by the people and their personal and professional lives. People in the Verde Valley and Sedona areas refer to the Quad-City area as "Over the mountain" meaning the geological barrier of Mingus Mountain and the Black Hills, and the people in the Quad-City refer to the Verde Valley and Sedona as "Over the mountain". People in the Verde Valley and Sedona refer to Flagstaff as "Up the hill". I never really realized the extent of the meaning and separation of "Over the mountain" until I moved to the Quad-City area. Think about how these residents view their communities of interest when you compare "Over the mountain" to just "Up the hill". This totally exemplifies people's view of their communities of interest. "Over the Mountain" is not just a physical designation to those of us who live in these areas. Even if you tried to set aside the huge impact of major areas such as healthcare (where Sedona and the Verde Valley are combined with Flagstaff in both hospitals and local providers), or government entities (where the Sedona City Government works closely and is more in sync with the Flagstaff City Government and the Cottonwood City Government than with the Prescott City Government), and other areas that include infrastructure, tourism, etc., the biggest impact is the impact of separating people's lives which includes their Communities of Interest. I
10/18/2021 - 06:48	Frances Huff	Black Canyon City should not be divided by 1-17	Do not divide Black Canyon city. This action does nothing but destroy the the small town character and cohesiveness of a rural town whose interests and concerns are not those of a big city like Phoenix. Neither does it further the goal of "bipartisan districting". BCC needs to stay wholly in Yavapai County, for LD and CD representation that serves its rural, western values and interests. Taxpayers should not be aligned with another county that will not provide their needs. The community of interest is with the county of residence, where taxes are paid. Do not make this arbitrary and useless division.

10/18/2021 - 07:06	Nelson Morgan		Thank you for making the series 3 maps available before your meeting today. I have run all of them through the planscore tool. Each of them has a partisan bias as defined by planscore, namely the fraction of seats for one party over the other in a hypothetical election in which statewide vote is 50-50. Other measures from planscore give different values (such as efficiency gap), but they tend to lean in the same direction.
			Extracting just the partisan bias from the planscore reports for the 6 series 3 maps, we get:
			CD3.0 6.1%R
			CD3.1 7.5%R
			CD3.2 6.9%R
			CD3.3 5.8%R
			CD3.4 5.8%R
			CD3.5 8.0%R
			These were all based on modifications from CD2.1, which had a partisan bias of 3.6%R . So the last set of changes moved the map further towards R.
			For the legislative maps,
			LD3.0 3.0%R
			LD3.1 2.3%R
			LD3.2 3.0%R
			These were all based on modifications from LD2.0, which had a partisan bias of 1.5%R . Here too the bias moved R-ward, though not by as much.
			While you must look at a level of detail far beyond these single number characterizations, I thought you might find it useful to see these.
10/18/2021 - 08:16	Larry Romo	Navajo County GOP attempt to influence the IRC	Hello,
			As a resident of Navajo County, I wanted to bring the Commission's attention to this post from the Navajo County Republican Party, directing their supporters to submit verbatim comment in an attempt to influence the maps:
			https://www.facebook.com/NavajoCountyRepublicanCommittee/posts/391182049294700
			rural cities and counties. (First map-proposed Legislative Districts, Second map-proposed Congressional Districts). CALL TO ACTION: We need every citizen in Northeast Arizona to advocate for our legislative district to promote, protect and help our rural counties and cities to prosper.
			Below are two important items that need your immediate citizen action. First: We need every citizen to submit a public comment by the end of the day Friday, October 8 (that's just two days) concerning the newest maps recently published. We need them to hear that our 5+ Eastern Counties will not be forgotten! Below is a sample text for your comment. Feel free to change it up to make it your own. Please share this with all of your email contacts throughout our region. Here is the link https://irc.az.gov/contact-us
			Comment: "With respect to the proposed maps, it is my opinion that it once again entirely ignores the needs of Rural Eastern Arizona. Our region of the 5 Eastern Counties was perfectly united from 2001-2010. In 2011, the IRC silenced our voice in the legislature. In 2021 We want our Rural voice in our state government given back! Please restore to us the 5+ Eastern Counties district: Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Southern Navajo and Apache counties, with the Copper Corridor of eastern Pinal County and the Verde Valley of Southeast Yavapai. Thank you."

10/18/2021 - 08:27	Ann Everett	Redistricting	PLease listen. Our Verde Valley is divided with the last decision ten years ago. This division is hurting our ability to engage with others as to local elections candidates. My lifestyle does not permit me to go to Flagstaff for meetings that I am interested in, but I can participate in the Verde Valley(Health problems) Please reconsider the division of the last redistricting and redraw your lines and connect the whole Verde Valley. Thank you.
10/18/2021 - 09:36	Larry Woods	LD Test Map Version 3.2 - D29	I just finished reviewing your LD Test Map Version 3.2. What you have outlined as D29 is probably about 90+% retirees, and guess how retirees vote. This is NOT a "balanced" district!
10/18/2021 - 09:38	Linda Horowitz	Public Comment about CD maps	My name is Linda Horowitz and, for over 25 years, I have been a resident in the eastern foothills of the Catalina Mountains north of Tucson. Although I do not live within the Tucson city limits, Tucson is an essential part of my community. I do most of my shopping in Tucson. My religious community is in Tucson. Therefore, when drawing the map of my Congressional District, my neighborhood should be in a district where the community of interest is the city of Tucson on the east side where I live. Right now, your map places me with rural areas in Pinal County and up to Phoenix which has nothing in common those of us in the community of the east Foothills. The current map also takes away the competitiveness of my CD. Currently, CD 2 is very competitive. In 2014 and 2016, a Republican was elected to this district. In 2018 and 2020 a Democrat was elected. The distribution of Republicans, Independents, and Democrats is basically equal also making it a competitive district. The district you have drawn, however, is not competitive. Please consider my arguments and re-draw the map to place me in a Congressional District that both reflects my community of interest and is competitive.
10/18/2021 - 09:44	Mark W. Knecht	Guiding ideas for AZ Congressional maps	There are only a couple of state wide obvious points I would like to make. Sadly I don't believe these are getting to anyone to look at or act upon. I will continue to hope: 1) There are enough people in Maricopa County to draw 5 Congressional districts without going outside the county. If the IRC did that, as I have in about 10 different ways, then there would likely be 2 red, 2 blue and 1 leaning slightly blue. 2) The only 'Community of Interest' in Southern Arizona that makes sense to me is that we border Mexico. The combined population of Yuma, Pima, Santa Cruz and Cochise Counties is 1.4 million people which is almost enough to make two districts. Southern Arizona is D+3 or D+4 by itself. The voting power of Southern Arizona as a whole is being diluted by districts running very far north in any direction. Please see my map CD0038 for a very compact and effective way to draw those two districts. That's 7 districts done. 3) With 2 districts left to draw the IRC would have to decide on either one across the north uniting most of the northern tribes, or two, one east and one west. Please note: With no cogent feedback from the IRC to the public on the comments we make it's more or less impossible to know whether our comments make a difference. I hope you will find a way to improve on this. Thank you, Mark Knecht
10/18/2021 - 09:45	Leslie Lerman	Redistricting	I encourage Arizona to adopt a fair tool for redistricting. https://www.technologyreview.com/2021/08/12/1031567/mathematicians-algorithms-stop-gerrymandering/ And please stop acting idiotically. You are giving AZ a bad name.
10/18/2021 - 10:14	Mary Ann Keerins	Mapping Tucson Area	I am a long time resident of Tucson in the area generally referred to as the Foothills. The most recent maps separate the Foothills from the rest of Tucson into the new Legislative District 17. We are part of Tucson and want to stay engaged with Tucson. A map that separates us out is an attempt to "pack" all of the Tucson Democrats into one district rather than encourage diversity and competitive districts.

10/18/2021 - 10:53	Deborah Thalasitis	Redistricting Rural Areas	I am writing to request that you retain two CD and LD districts for rural northern Arizona. First, this area is growing rapidly and the opportunity to redistrict and address that growth will not come for another 10 years. The Verde Valley and Sedona are, and need to stay one community of interest with Flagstaff and their LD and CD districts need to reflect this. The Verde Valley and Sedona, in relation to the Quad-City area, are not just separated by a mountain range. They are also separated by the people and their personal and professional lives. People in the Verde Valley and Sedona areas refer to the Quad-City area as "Over the mountain" meaning the geological barrier of Mingus Mountain and the Black Hills, and the people in the Quad-City refer to the Verde Valley and Sedona as "Over the mountain". People in the Verde Valley and Sedona refer to Flagstaff as "Up the hill". "Over the Mountain" is not just a physical designation to those of us who live in these areas. Even if you tried to set aside the huge impact of major areas such as healthcare (where Sedona and the Verde Valley are combined with Flagstaff in both hospitals and local providers), or government entities (where the Sedona City Government works closely and is more in sync with the Flagstaff City Government and the Cottonwood City Government than with the Prescott City Government), and other areas that include infrastructure, tourism, etc., the biggest impact is the impact of separating people's lives which includes their Communities of Interest. It's commonplace for people who live in Cottonwood to drive to work to Sedona and for people who live in Sedona to drive to work to Flagstaff. It's not near as common for people who live in the Quad-City area to drive to the Verde Valley or Sedona to work and vice versa. The Quad-City area is way more aligned with Kirkland, Yarnell and Congress than it is with the Verde Valley and Sedona.
10/18/2021 - 11:58	Marlene Barrington	Redistrictig	Please let the folks in Verde Valley, Cottonwood and Sedona not be included in the Prescott/Prescott Valley countthey should be addressed as one entity on their own
10/18/2021 - 12:09	Crystal Bazarnic	Please include Anthem and New River in a Maricopa County LD	I am exploring the latest version 3.2 legislative map, and note that Anthem and New River are still included with Yavapai County. These towns are part of the Phoenix suburbs and should be with a Phoenix-based LD, preferably including the entire I-17 north corridor, east and west of the I-17 from New River down to, or even past, the Loop 101. We are a cohesive community of interest and should be in a district together. Thank you.
10/18/2021 - 12:26	Amy Gilner	Anthem Redistricting	Dear Sir/Madam: I have heard that Anthem is being considered to become part of the Prescott District. I have no idea why we would be considered a part of Prescott. We are in no way connected with Prescott. The makeup of our cities are not the same, not even close. Anthem is located in Maricopa County, not Yavapai County. So why would we even be considered to be a part of the Prescott community and their district? To me this makes no sense whatsoever, and I hope that you will agree. Anthem is located in North Phoenix. In fact, Anthem is about 2-3 miles just north of the Phoenix city limit. Please carefully consider this. I appreciate your kind and thoughtful consideration. Thank you. Sincerely, Amy Gilner
10/18/2021 - 12:40	Nancy Wood	Anthem in Legislative Redistricting Map	Dear Members of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission: I am a resident of Anthem and I have been following the your efforts in redrawing our congressional and legislative districts. I commend you for your efforts, but I am dismayed to see that Anthem is once again paired with Yavapai County. Anthem is a suburb of Phoenix. Anthem is part of Maricopa County and many of us identify strongly with Phoenix. When we want to shop or eat, we usually go to Happy Valley, or further in Phoenix or its other suburbs. Many of us don't go north for those things. The majority of Yavapai County is rural and, as such, has very little in common with metropolitan Phoenix and its suburbs, including Anthem. I want to be in a district where we have more in common with each other, as far as interests and priorities. Please do not put Anthem with Yavapai County. I want our legislative district to be in Maricopa County. Anthem residents live in Maricopa County. It makes a lot of sense that our legislative district would reflect that. Thank you, Nancy Wood
10/18/2021 - 12:41	Rebecca Nance	Redistricting Anthem	My family and I reside in Anthem. Our tax dollars, the businesses we go to, and the schools we attend, museums we visit, and restaurants we eat at are all part of Maricopa County. Anthem should not be included in the redistricting to Yavapai County. We are a suburb of Phoenix, and should be included in a metro district, not a rural district. We are directly impacted by growth along the i-17 corridor between Norterra and N. Phoenix. We are a multi-cultural family that desire representation that aligns with Maricopa County, which is why we moved here, and not to Prescott.
10/18/2021 - 12:44	Mary Nelson	Anthem/new River legislative district	I would like to encourage consideration of putting Anthem in a Maricopa County district since we have much more in common with northern Phoenix than with Yavapai County. We go south for all our shopping and medical needs, not north to Yavapai County. Current districting is confusing to voters so please consider changing it during the current opportunity for redistricting. Thank you
			kindly.

10/18/2021 - 12:53	Cheryl Ines Autry	Redistricting	Please keep Cottonwood aligned with Prescott
10/18/2021 - 13:05	Rita E DePuydt	Redistricting Northern AZ	Dear AZ Redistricting Commissioners, I strongly support creating two Legislative Districts for the Northern part of the state. I live in Prescott and in no way do I consider myself connected to the Verde Valley, Sedona and Flagstaff. I go to those cities only as a tourist. The Verde Valley and Sedona need to be in the same LD and CD as Flagstaff, not in the same LD and CD as the Quad-City area. As the populations in the Flagstaff area and the Prescott area grow it will be ever more important to have two districts. Thank you.
10/18/2021 - 13:14	Melissa Gray	Anthem - Districting	Hi! My family & I live in Anthem, Az. We are part of Maricopa county and should not be zoned/grouped with Yavapai County. We eat at restaurants in North Phoenix, shop at stores in North Phoenix. Our children attend school in Phoenix. We are not part of rural Arizona. We are a suburb of Phoenix and should be included as such. Thank you!
10/18/2021 - 13:17	James Hartman	LD 1 Cave Creek/Carefree redistricting	I think it is important to include North Scottdale, Desert Hills, Anthem in the new redistricting maps that include Cave Creek & Carefree.
10/18/2021 - 13:25	Mary Morris	CD 1 & LD 6 redistricting public comment	Please enter my comments in the record. I have found it impossible to find a functioning link to officially submit my comments. Your website is not user friendly in that regard. I am a 20+ year resident of Sedona. Our congressional & state legislative districts are very dissimilar and do not respect our Yavapai Co. borders or combine communities of interest. Sedona is part of the Verde Valley and much more like our county seat in Prescott AZ vs everthing that runs from the north to the Utah boarder including all the way down to parts of Tucson. This huge geography is a unsustainable burden on any rep and they can't possibly be effective at representing such a broad, dissimilar area. Please change the lines for LD 6 so we are aligned with our county boundaries. We rely on Yavapai Co., not Coconino other eastern counties for roads, land use broadband, law enforcement, education, healthcare and more. Sedona, Cottonwood & Cornville do not belong in Coconino Co. Keeping similar demographics together is consistent with the requirement for "communities of interest" The median age in Sedona is 61, Prescott is 58 and Flagstaff in Coconino Co. is 25. Sincerely, Mary Morris Sedona, AZ 86351
10/18/2021 - 13:44	Mary Ann Bushard	New River	Good afternoon. I understand that New River and Anthem may be included within the Yavapai County legislative districts as a part of redistricting. I have lived in New River for 22 years. All of my work, shopping, community activities, and the majority of my recreational activities are centered around Maricopa County. MCSCO provides our law enforcement services, MCFD provides flood control mapping and information, and Maricopa County provides planning and zoning. Please do not include New River in a legislative district that will be part of Yavapai County. Thank you. Mary Ann Bushard
10/18/2021 - 14:04	Mary Moriarity	Redistricting	We live in Anthem, Az in the metropolitan Phoenix area and in Maricopa County. We are concerned that we are again being lumped with rural area in Yavapai Co. for representation in our state and National government. Our needs are so different than the northern rural /small town areas. Our schools, our senior services, and infrastructure so different than rural. We have owned a home here since 2004 and feel our needs and views are never represented. The gerrymandering only has allowed far right wing representatives backed by the rural areas (the "don't tread on me" types to the north) to be elected. There are many more independents and moderates who never have a chance to be elected. Our more metropolitan suburb should be in a district with north Phoenix as our interests are along the 17 and south of usbusiness policies, development, schools, environment, infrastructure. We never get a say or representation. Now is the time to change that! Mary and John Moriarity

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10/18/2021 - 14:21	Jean Meconi	published plans	How will the published plans be utilized? I was curious if the published plans will be used after a draft map is finalized and the thirty day comment period begins. Thank you, jean
10/18/2021 - 14:26	Bonnie McMinn	AZ Redistricting and rural communities	Respectfully, I request that The Verde Valley and Sedona need to be in their same LD and CD as Flagstaff and keep the Quad Cities separate. The rural issues are different for the two areas. With Northern AZ growing so fast, maintaining a demarcation is critical. Our demographics, water concerns, traffic, growth, healthcare and educational requirements are different enough to warrant two districts. There two areas have far more differences than similarities. Thank you.
10/18/2021 - 15:49	Howard Hazelwood	REDISTRICTING VERDE VALLEY	I live in Camp Verde and I am worried about having Flagstaff becoming part of my voting district. Flagstaff is too far away from here to be part of our Verde Valley voting district or vice versa. If we need to buy something we can't find in Camp Verde or Cottonwood we go to Prescott Valley and Prescott or sometimes Sedona. We can do that without driving so far on I-17, especially considering the winter weather and the altitude of Flagstaff, which is not healthy for me at age 72. Finally, the older average age of the people seems much more compatible in the Verde Valley than compared to a much younger college town like Flagstaff. Please do not combine Flagstaff with the Verde Valley when you do any redistricting of my area around Camp Verde. Thank you!
10/18/2021 - 16:12	Hope Busto-Keyes	Avoid Partisan Packing or Cracking of Communites of Interest	Dear Commissioners, Being mindful of potential gerrymandering of districts is extremely important. Merging communities of interest (i.e. counties) to areas that would create partisan packing is not fair nor is it fair to split communities of interest in a manner that dilutes said community's voting power. Asking the all important question about partisan packing or cracking whenever changes are made to the district maps will promote the creation of fair maps for all Arizonans. We are counting on you. Thank you.
10/18/2021 - 16:48	Marion Pack	Redistricting Maps	I live in Yavapai County, in the city of Prescott. In deciding maps please be aware Sedona, Cottonwood, and the Verde Valley are very different than Prescott and the surrounding area. We laughingly call it "the other side of the mountain." The majority of Sedona's economy is dependent on tourism, The Prescott area has a diverse economy with three higher educational facilities, and a growing technical industry. We need representatives that can address our issues. Thank you for your time invested in this important endeavor.
10/18/2021 - 16:59	James David Yazloff	Redistricting	Please do not redistrict the Yavapai County in with Flagstaff as this does not align with the values of Yavapai County.

10/18/2021 - 17:09	Kristen Grantham	Anthem is NOT part of Yavapai County	Hello, I have heard talk of Anthem and New River being potentially redistricted to be part of Yavapai; I am opposed to this for many reasons. My kids and I live in Anthem, they go to school in Anthem, and Anthem is part of Phoenix (Maricopa County). I work in Phoenix and Scottsdale, and we shop in these cities as well. I never go to Prescott for anything in our life and I do not want to be represented by someone from Prescott. Prescott is very extreme politically and this will only ensure that those of us in Anthem who do not identify with their backwards politics will not be represented as long as this is the case. Please do not allow Anthem and New River to be part of Prescott's voting lines.
10/18/2021 - 17:54	Rita Day	3rd Round of Public hearings.	The Commission has announced that they will be holding a third round of public hearings tentatively from November 2nd through the 28th. I urge the IRC to give advance notice of these public hearings, including dates, times and locations. This important information should be provided as early as possible so the public can make arrangements to testify on behalf of their communities. Access to these public hearings is critical for the public to provide their input. Please provide this ASAP!
10/18/2021 - 19:12	Lyn Johnson	Redistricting	Yavapai County is unique. Not that we're alone in our uniqueness, but alignment with another county that doesn't share our needs will dilute solutions that are specific to our concerns. I could delve into vague assessments regarding the differences between Flagstaff/Sedona and other Coconino locales versus The Prescott area Quad Cities/West Verde Valley and other Yavapai locales. "The vibe is different there, the political preferences are different there, Flagstaff is a college town", and so on. However, simply stated, both areas represent sizeable populations each with specific issues that rarely overlap and need to be addressed each on our own behalf. Counties should be kept together when possible. Taxpayers should not be aligned with another county that has different needs.
10/18/2021 - 22:18	Stan Caine	Maps are not representative of my community of intrrest	I was surprised that you continue to melt Pima County into Maricopa County for CD. We are not Phoenix! Additionally, my LD is not representing my community. I submitted an LD only map. Please look at it. Thank you Stan Caune
10/18/2021 - 22:24	Maria A Lynam	Yavapai County and the Verde Valley/Sedona area	Thanks to you all for undertaking this arduous task. I am writing to remind you of the testimony that was given in Yavapai County in July. A number of citizens gave testimony that stated the Verde Valley and Sedona are a completely different community than the rest of the county. They have their own economy, agriculture, tourism, school and library districts. They are separated from us by the Mingus Mountains. Please keep this in the forefront of your deliberations when you make changes to our CD & legislative districts.
10/18/2021 - 22:28	Maria A Lynam	Comments on the Upcoming Draft Map Hearings	Dear Commissioners, You have said a number of times (and even published) that public comment on draft maps will be from October 28 - November 30. It would help the citizens of Arizona to be apprised of the meetings as soon as possible. Your staff, while admirable, has not published one meeting site. Your first meeting (if you go per the schedule) is nine days away.